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Be Ye Perfect

Alice Henry Groser

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Be Ye Perfect



BE YE PERFECT

A COLLECTION OF BRIEF DEVOTIONAL
THOUGHTS FOR DAILY USE, TAKEN IN A
LARGE MEASURE FROM THE WRITINGS
OF THOSE WHO BY THEIR UPLIFTING
INFLUENCE IN THE RELIGIOUS WORLD
HAVE BEEN EFFICIENT FACTORS IN
SPREADING THE KINGDOM OF CHRIST
HERE ON EARTH

COMPILED BY
ALICE HENRY GROSER

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DEDICATION

Looking to the coming of Christ's kingdom on earth, I would pray for all mankind, in the words of our blessed Lord and Saviour, that they *all may be one*, and that they might know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom Thou hast sent. That Thou wouldst keep them from the evil, sanctify them through Thy truth, that the spirit of truth may dwell with them, and *in them*, and that they *may be perfect*, even as our Father in Heaven is perfect.

“When the shadows lengthen,
Show us, Lord, Thy way;
Through the darkness lead us
To the heavenly day.

When our course is finished,
Ended all the strife,
Grant us, with the faithful,
Palms and crowns of life.”

Amen.

PREFACE

In my selections I have had ever before me what might be of best help to those who, "recognizing that all life is divine, and all business God's business," are striving, "by the force of their personality in Christ, to widen and deepen the Kingdom of God."

To these fellow-men for whom I have made this effort to gather thoughts for daily help, I would say,

"Soldiers of the Cross, arise! And

Where the shadows deepest lie,

Carry truth's unsullied ray.

* * *

To the weary and the worn

Tell of realms where sorrows cease.

* * *

Guard the helpless, seek the strayed,

Comfort troubles, banish grief—

* * *

Till the kingdoms of the world

Are the kingdom of the Lord."

ALICE HENRY GROSER.

March 1, 1903, Richmond, Va.

FIRST DAY

Many, O Lord my God, are Thy wonderful works
which Thou hast done—they cannot be reckoned up
in order unto Thee. —*Ps. 40: 5.*

From glory unto glory! What great things He
hath done,
What wonders He hath shown us, what triumphs
He hath won!
From glory unto glory! What mighty blessings
crown
The lives for which our Lord hath laid His own so
fully down. —*F. R. Havergal.*

The one thing that will win the world for Christ is
love—patient, unselfish, uncalculating.
—*E. S. Lines.*

To bring men up to their best, we must call them
to the highest. —*Bishop Brent.*

Thou hast made us for Thyself, and the heart never
resteth till it findeth rest in Thee.
—*St. Augustine.*

God alone speaks in us, and we wait in singleness
of heart, that we may know His will, and in the
silence of our spirits that we may do His will, and do
that only.

—*John Endicott ("New England Tragedies.")*

E'en death itself hath not power to kill
The high resolve of an earnest will.

—*From the Norwegian.*

It is not that we need to know more what we
should do; we need to do more what we already
know.

—*J. H. Canfield.*

We live in deeds, not years; in thoughts, not
breaths.

—*Bailey.*

The world needs brave men to-day, who are deter-
mined to see God wherever He is; and He is in
everything, short of actual sin.

—*Bishop Brent.*

Lord, Thou hast been our dwelling-place in all
generations. Even from everlasting to everlasting,
Thou art God.

—*Ps. 90: 1, 2.*

Man is in loss, except he live aright,
And help his fellow to be firm and brave.

—*E. Arnold.*

Toil on! Faint not! Keep watch and pray!
Be wise the erring soul to win!
Go forth into the world's highway!
Compel the wanderer to come in!

—*H. Bonar.*

SECOND DAY

For the light of the Lord leadeth him.

—*Eccles. 2 : 29.*

In strength or weakness, may we see

Our heavenward path, O Lord, through Thee.

—*E. H. Plumptre.*

The essence of religion, is strength for the unexpected things in life.

—*Anon.*

Be strong then, and very courageous; turn not to the right hand nor to the left; neither be thou dismayed; for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

—*Joshua 1 : 7, 9.*

Nothing can make a man strong for duty, save the grace of God.

—*Anon.*

True-hearted, whole-hearted! Faithful and loyal,

King of our lives, by Thy grace we will be!

Under Thy standard exalted and royal,

Strong in Thy strength we will battle for Thee.

—*F. R. Havergal.*

For him who aspires, and for him who loves his fellow beings, life may lead through the thorns, but it never stops in the desert. —*Anon.*

Never falter. No great deed is done
By falterers who ask for certainty.
No good is certain but the steadfast mind,
The undivided will to seek the good.
The greatest gift a hero leaves his race
Is to have been a hero.

—*George Eliot.*

The truly generous is the truly wise,
And he who loves not others, lives unblest.

—*Horace.*

If with honest-hearted
Love for God and man
Day by day Thou find us
Doing what we can,
Thou who giv'st the seed-time
Wilt give large increase,
Crown the head with blessings,
Fill the heart with peace.

—*J. S. B. Monsell.*

THIRD DAY

Whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus—for ye serve the Lord Christ.

—*Col. 3: 17, 24.*

Christ for the world we sing!
The world to Christ we bring,
 With one accord;
With us the work to share,
With us reproach to dare,
With us the cross to bear,
 For Christ our Lord.

—*S. Wolcott.*

To know Christ our Lord, is to live; to serve Him, is to reign.

—*Bishop A. C. A. Hall.*

Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

—*F. R. Havergal.*

It is only out of the fulness of the heart that the mouth can speak effective words.

—*Bishop Brent.*

Honest thinking in regard to ourselves will help us toward the grace of humility.

—*James L. Houghteling.*

Search thine own heart. What paineth thee
In others, in thyself may be ;
All dust is frail, all flesh is weak ;
Be thou the true man thou dost seek.

—*Whittier.*

The Christian man is the true man, everywhere and at all times.

—*Dr. Lindsay Parker.*

This is the Christian's privilege, that he lives in a larger world than other men.

—*Anon.*

Use us for thy glory, Lord,
In the way that seemeth right,
Whether but to wait and watch,
Or to gird our limbs and fight.
Marching on or standing still,
Each is best when 'tis Thy will.

—*Anon.*

FOURTH DAY

O send out thy light and thy truth, that they may
lead me. —*Ps. 43: 3.*

O truth, before whose shrine we bow,
Thou priceless pearl for all who seek,
To Thee our earliest strength we vow;
Thy love will bless the pure and meek.
When dreams or mists beguile our sight,
Turn Thou our darkness into light.
—*E. H. Plumptre.*

Truth is given not to be contemplated, but to be
done. —*F. W. Robertson.*

A lie and the truth can never lie down together in
peace. —*Unknown.*

Only be steadfast! Never waver,
Nor seek earth's favor.
—*Paul Fleming.*

Life is an action, not a thought. There is no truth-
fulness except in the witness borne to God by doing
His will—to live the truths we hold, or else they will
be no truths at all. —*F. W. Robertson.*

No life can be pure in its purpose and strong in its strife, and all life not be stronger and purer thereby.

—*Meredith.*

The Christian's life is victory all along the line.

—*Bishop Brent.*

Struggle on with strong endeavors

For the good of fellow-man.

If you can't do all you purpose,

'Tis as well—do all you can.

—*Burlingame.*

Labor is life. All true work is sacred. In all true work, were it but true hand-labor, there is something of divineness. Labor, wide as the earth, has its summit in heaven.

—*Thomas Carlyle.*

Life should be full of earnest work,

Our hearts undashed by fortune's frown;

Let perseverance conquer fate

And merit seize the victor's crown.

—*Phoebe Cary.*

FIFTH DAY

After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father
which art in Heaven. —*Matt. 6: 9.*

Father, hear Thy children's call;
Humbly at Thy feet we fall,
Prodigals confessing all—
We beseech Thee, hear us.

Gifts of light and grace bestow,
Help us to resist the foe;
Fearing what alone is woe,
We beseech Thee, hear us.

May we to all evil die,
Fleshly longings crucify,
Fix our hearts and thoughts on high—
We beseech Thee, hear us.

Lead us daily nearer Thee,
Till at last Thy face we see,
Crowned with Thine own purity—
We beseech Thee, hear us.
—*T. B. Pollock.*

Human life is a constant want and ought to be a
constant prayer. —*Osgood.*

Let prayer be the key of the morning and the bolt
of the evening. —*Anon.*

He surely never prays at all who does not end the
day—as all men wish to end their lives—in prayer.
—*Charles H. Spurgeon.*

O wondrous love, which gives us free recourse
To drink our fill at love's unbounded source,
Our sorrow to unbosom, and our need,
And a rich promise for each want to plead;
To intercede for blessings on mankind
The pleasure of a charitable mind;
To beg all graces, deprecate all bane,
Heaven for ourselves and others to obtain.
—*Bishop Ken.*

There may be many tongues and many languages
of men, but the language of prayer is one by itself, in
all and above all. —*Harriet Beecher Stowe.*

Work and hope and smile and pray;
Pass thus manfully the day.
—*Anon.*

It has been said that prayer is quite the most diffi-
cult task a man can undertake —*Anon.*

Only, O Lord, in Thy dear love,
Fit us for perfect rest above;
And help us, this and every day,
To live more nearly as we pray.
—*Keble.*

SIXTH DAY

And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto His heavenly kingdom.
—*II. Tim. 4: 18.*

Fight the good fight with all thy might,
Christ is thy strength and Christ thy right;
Lay hold on life, and it shall be
Thy joy and crown eternally.

—*J. S. B. Monsell.*

If there be no enemy, no fight; if no fight, no victory; if no victory, no crown.
—*Savonarola.*

What is needed by man is not freedom from, but freedom in, temptation.
—*Bishop Brent.*

Only the firmest and most constant hearts
God sets to act the stoutest, hardest parts.
—*Unknown.*

The more difficulties one has to encounter within and without, the more significant and the higher in inspiration his life will be.
—*Anon.*

In all the lives of the sainted followers of Christ we find prayer has been the great weapon whereby they have fought so good a fight and through which they have been made more than conquerors.

—*Maria Hare.*

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the whole armor of God that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

—*Eph. 6: 10.*

The man who would gain freedom in temptation must be one who never turned his back—but marched breast forward.

—*Bishop Brent.*

Stand up, stand up for Jesus!
Stand in His strength alone!
The arm of flesh will fail you,
Ye dare not trust your own!

To him that overcometh,
A crown of life shall be;
He with the King of Glory
Shall reign eternally.

—*F. G. Duffield.*

SEVENTH DAY

God be gracious unto you, and give you all a heart to serve Him and to do His will with a good courage and a willing mind. —*II Maccabees 2: 3.*

Onward, ever onward,
Journeying o'er the road!
Won by saints before us,
Journeying on to God;
Leaving all behind us,
May we hasten on;
Backward never looking
Till the prize is won.

—*G. Thring.*

The hope of Christianity lies in its boldness.

—*Bishop Brent.*

If you wish to influence others, you must see that you have within yourself that reality and intensity of life on which alone genuine influence is based.

—*George R. Parkin.*

Thou must be true thyself if thou the truth would'st teach;

It needs the overflow of heart to give the lips full speech.

—*Holmes.*

To be spiritually minded, to be strong for duty, to be a person not a puppet on a string—these are the three ways in which we can set our hearts toward God's highway.
—*Unknown.*

The Christian has to see those whom Christ sees, for the follower looks through his Master's eyes.
—*Bishop Brent.*

The fact that man is the child of God reveals the truth, that all men are brothers and the race of men is the family of God.
—*Joseph B. Dunn.*

Let us act toward our fellow creatures as God does to us, and be to them what the sun is to the whole universe.
—*From the German of Sturm.*

Oh strengthen me, that while I stand
Firm on the rock, and strong in Thee,
I may stretch out a loving hand
To wrestlers with the troubled sea.
—*F. R. Havergal.*

EIGHTH DAY

Behold, thy salvation cometh; behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him, and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the Lord shall name. Thou shalt also be a crown of glory in the hand of the Lord.

—*Isaiah 62: 2, 3, 11.*

The trials that beset you,
The sorrows ye endure,
The manifold temptations
That death alone can cure;
What are they but His jewels,
Of right celestial worth?
What are they but the ladder
Set up to Heaven on earth?

—*St. Joseph, 840, Trans. J. M. Neale.*

When God's storms come sweeping along it is the Christian alone who can lift his head, look up, and stand erect as they enshroud him, for a Christian cannot fear where God is.

—*Bishop Brent.*

Courage, Brother! do not stumble,
Though thy path be dark as night;
There's a star to guide the humble!
"Trust in God, and do the right."

—*Norman MacLeod.*

A Christian man does not need a convent's wall and discipline to help him against sin and to perform those pledges which he owes to God.

—*Rev. J. de Soyres.*

Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

—*Rev. 22: 14.*

It was because an ideal is necessary to every human life that our Lord said, "Be ye therefore perfect."

—*Bishop F. Courtney.*

Not the good thing we accomplish, but the better
thing we plan;

Not achievement, but ideal, is the measure of a
man.

—*S. V. Cole.*

It is true manliness to imitate our Lord as a worker in the faithful discharge of duty, and to do one's best work on all occasions.

—*John W. Wood.*

Dare to do right! dare to be true!
You have a work that no other can do;
Do it so wisely, so nobly, so well,
Angels will hasten the story to tell.

—*Unknown.*

NINTH DAY

Hereby perceive we the love of God, because He
laid down His life for us. —*I. John 3: 16.*

The fulness of His blessing
Encompasseth our ways;
The fulness of His promises crowns
Every brightening day;
The fulness of His glory is
Beaming from above;
While more and more we learn to know
The fulness of His love.

—*F. R. Havergal.*

Under the divine law of service, God's law is such
that a man cannot serve himself without serving
others. —*Bishop Thompson.*

A poor man served by thee shall make thee rich,
A sick man helped by thee shall make thee strong;
Thou shalt be served thyself by every sense
Of service which thou renderest.

—*E. B. Browning.*

The measure of greatness in the kingdom of
Heaven is the measure of service.

—*Thompson.*

'Tis worth a wise man's best of life;
'Tis worth a thousand years of strife;
If we can lessen, but by one,
The thousand ills beneath the sun.

—*John Hall.*

Every man has one life, and he should make the most of that life by joining it with God's life and God's thought.

—*Alex. McKenzie.*

Arouse thee, soul!
Oh, there is much to do for thee
If thou would'st work for human kind.

—*Robert Nicoll.*

Every day is a life fresh with reinstated power.
We are born anew every time that the sun rises and lights up the world for man to do his part in it.

—*N. L. Frothingham.*

Work till the last beam fadeth,
Fadeth to shine no more;
Work while the night is darkening,
When man's work is o'er.

—*Miss A. L. Walker.*

TENTH DAY

Be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

—*I. Tim. 4: 12.*

Rejoice, ye pure in heart!

Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

Your glorious banner wave on high,

The cross of Christ your king!

—*E. H. Plumptre.*

Honesty and purity—these two are the web and the woof of character, and upon it God can embroider a beauteous tapestry—the picture of a God-like man.

—*James L. Houghteling.*

My strength is as the strength of ten,
Because my heart is pure.

—*Tennyson.*

God give us men!

Men who possess opinions and a will;

Men who have honor—men who will not lie;

Tall men, sun crowned, who live above the fog

In public duty and in private thinking.

—*Holland.*

'Tis not what man *does* which exalts him, but what man *would* do.
—*E. B. Browning.*

Our common everyday lives are the means God implies by which we shall build our Christian lives.
—*Henry Drummond.*

Made for Thyself, O God!
Made to show forth, Thy wisdom, grace and might;
Made for Thy love, Thy service, Thy delight;
Oh, strange and glorious thought; that we may be
A joy to Thee. —*Anon.*

The pains we spend upon our mortal selves will perish with ourselves; but the care we give out of a good heart to others, the efforts of disinterested duty, the deeds and thoughts of pure affection are never lost.
—*Merle d'Aubigne.*

We lose what on ourselves we spend;
We have as treasure without end
Whatever, Lord, to Thee we lend,
Who givest all.
—*Bishop C. Wordsworth.*

ELEVENTH DAY

And when the Chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

—*I. Peter 5: 4.*

Glories upon glories
Hath our God prepared,
By the souls that love Him
One day to be shared;
Eye hath not beheld them,
Ear hath never heard;
Nor of these hath uttered
Thought, or speech, or word;
Forward! be our watchword,
Steps and voices joined,
Seek the things before us,
Not a look behind.

—*Henry Alford.*

He is the happy man whose life even now shows somewhat of that happier life to come.

—*William Cowper.*

In all generations there emerge out of the multitude, formed and moulded by the outer world, men whose character springs out of some fountain within,

out of a faith which does not belong to them as mere members of human society, but is planted in them from a source high above its influences and standards. The character which has its springs there is hardy, genuine, rooted in eternity, and abiding forever.

—*Bishop F. D. Huntington.*

Temperament we are born with, character we have to make.

—*J. Baldwin Brown.*

Be noble in every thought and every deed.

—*Longfellow.*

It is the multitude of little actions which make the great ones.

—*J. Baldwin Brown.*

When in Time's testing balance weighed,
The man is nothing, the work is all.

—*L. A. Robertson.*

For to patient, brave endeavor
Cometh utter failure never,
And the crown at last forever
Shall be won.

—*Anon.*

TWELFTH DAY

Forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. —*Phil. 3: 13, 14.*

Kept peaceful in the midst of strife,
Forgiving and forgiven;
Oh, may we lead the pilgrim's life
And follow Thee to Heaven!

—*John H. Gurney.*

The privileged life of citizens of the kingdom is the life of humility, and mercy, and purity, and peace, and of hunger and thirst after righteousness; the life that is full of forgiveness and of ready service for others. The life which has no anxious thought for the morrow, and bears no heavy burdens of sorrow or sin, or doubt, because the King has taken them all—and freed us from the accursed load.

—*Bishop Whitehead.*

Teach me to live, Thy purpose to fulfil;
Bright for Thy glory let my taper shine;
Each day renew, remould this stubborn will;
Closer round Thee my heart's affections twine.

—*Anon.*

Every Christian is bound to strive, to deepen and widen, by the force of his personality in Christ, the Kingdom of God.

—*Bishop Brent.*

Arouse thee, soul!
And let the body do
Some worthy deed for human happiness.

—*Robert Nicoll.*

Not man's judgment of what the Lord requires from His weak ones, but God's own requirement, constitutes our true service.

—*Secret of the Lord.*

Would you make men trustworthy, trust them;
would you make them true, believe them.

—*F. W. Robertson.*

Give us zeal and faith and fervour, make us winning, make us wise,
Single-hearted, strong and fearless. Thou hast called us, we will rise!
Let the might of Thy good spirit go with every loving word;
And by hearts prepared and opened be our message always heard.

—*F. R. Havergal.*

THIRTEENTH DAY

Thou shalt guide me with Thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory. —*Ps. 73: 24.*

Teach me to live that I may dread
The grave as little as my bed;
Teach me to die that so I may
Rise glorious at the awful day.

—*Bishop Ken.*

Men are best fitted to meet their God when they are best fitted to live. —*Henry Lloyd.*

Pray and work, keep close to God and man. Watch over your own souls, and remember that your responsibility for others is measured by your opportunity. —*Rev. E. S. Lines.*

So closely is the web of human life woven that what touches one touches two at least, unless a man be a hermit, when he is as good as dead.

—*Bishop Brent.*

Men must have virtue within themselves before it can flow forth on others with healing power.

—*G. R. Parkin.*

So others shall take patience, labor, to their heart
and hand,

From thy hand, and thy heart, and thy brave cheer.

—*E. B. Browning.*

It is the essence of manhood that at each moment
of a man's career, until his Lord Jesus come again to
make earth and heaven anew, he shall be found trav-
eling as a pilgrim, warring as a soldier.

—*John W. Wood.*

Everywhere the most capable men are Christian
men.

—*Unknown.*

All the Lord's people are prophets, and the Lord
has put His spirit upon them.

—*Bishop Brent.*

God liveth still!

Trust my soul, and fear no ill;

God is good; from His compassion
Earthly help and comfort flow;

Strong is His right hand to fashion
All things well for men below.

—*From the German of Zihn.*

FOURTEENTH DAY

Pray one for another.

—*James 5: 16.*

But there's a power which man can wield
When mortal aid is vain—
That eye, that arm, that love to reach,
That listening ear to gain.

That power is prayer, which soars on high
Through Jesus to the throne,
And moves the hand which moves the world,
To bring salvation down.

—*J. Booth.*

We rise on the wings of prayer above all that is
worthless and perishable, and become greater—yea,
more divine—as we do so. This is the power of
prayer.

—*Zschokke.*

Prayer is the peace of our spirit and the calm of
our tempest.

—*Jeremy Taylor.*

Prayer must be the inspiring force which leads to
effort.

—*W. C. Sturgis.*

It is grand to feel that the Christian can lift, by the power of prayer, a myriad as easily as one, and can bring down showers of blessing on an entire race as readily as the few drops needed for his own little plot.

—*Bishop Brent.*

More things are wrought by prayer
Than this world dreams of

—*Tennyson.*

Constantly *look up!*

—*Austin Phelps.*

Prayer is the lifting up of the heart to God, with all that is in the heart—our hopes and fears, our joys and sorrows, our sins and doubts and needs, laying them all before the Father.

—*Bishop A. C. A. Hall.*

These hours of the soul's communion with truth and God, are the precious hours of life.

—*E. Peabody.*

There is a spot where spirits blend,
Where friend holds fellowship with friend;
Though sundered far, by faith they meet
Around one common mercy-seat.

—*H. Stowell, 1828.*

FIFTEENTH DAY

He that is our God is the God of salvation.

—*Ps. 68: 20.*

Standing at the portal of the opening year,
Words of comfort meet us, hushing every fear;
Spoken thro' the silence, by our Father's voice,
Tender, strong, and faithful, making us rejoice.

I the Lord am with thee, be not thou afraid;
I will help and strengthen, be thou not dismayed.
Yea, I will uphold thee with my own right hand;
Thou art called and chosen in my sight to stand.

—*Francis R. Havergal.*

If I have my God, I have all things at once.

—*Alex. R. Vinet.*

Our hearts are greater than the world, but God is greater than our hearts; and the happiness which He has laid up for us is, like Himself, incomprehensibly great and glorious.

—*John Tillotson.*

To be able to look into God's face and know with the knowledge of faith that there is nothing between the soul and Him, is to experience the fullest peace the soul can know.

—*Bishop Brent.*

Man's search for God is the homing instinct of the soul.
—*Unknown.*

Teach me, my God and King,
In all things Thee to see,
And what I do in anything
To do it as for Thee.
—*George Herbert.*

The end of life is to be like unto God; and the soul following God will be like unto Him. He being the beginning, middle, and end of all things.
—*Socrates.*

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guide while life shall last,
And our eternal home.
—*Isaac Watts.*

SIXTEENTH DAY

Work your work betimes, and in His time He will
give you your reward. —*Eccles. 51: 30.*

Give me a faithful heart, likeness to Thee,
That each departing day henceforth may see
Some work of love begun, some deed of kindness
done,
Some wand'rer sought and won—
Something for Thee.

—*S. D. Phelps.*

We often do more good by our sympathy than by
our labors. —*Canon Farrar.*

I watched if might be some one needed help,
If I might speak a word of cheer, or give
A hand, or even softly step where wounds were
aching. —*M. F. Butts.*

God will measure our progress toward Him, not by
what we have suffered, but by how much we have
desired to diminish the sufferings of others; by how
much our efforts have been directed to the saving and
perfecting of our brethren. —*Mazzini.*

So live to-day that when to-morrow comes
Thou shalt not cloud the sun with vain regret;
But let thy hand and heart commit those deeds
That love for man and faith in God beget.
—*O. Elliott.*

To do God's will from morn till night, to grasp the
opportunities as they fly, to plant our earthly seeds
for His heavenly harvest—this is the vocation to
which we are called.
—*Anon.*

Thou must be true thyself
If thou the truth would'st teach;
Thy soul must overflow if thou
Another's soul would reach.

Speak truly, and each word of thine
Shall be a fruitful seed;
Live truly, and thy life shall be
A great and noble creed.

—*Anon.*

SEVENTEENTH DAY

God shall lead Israel with joy in the light of His glory, with the mercy and righteousness that cometh from Him.

—*Baruch* 5: 9.

Lead us, O Father, in the path of right;
Blindly we stumble when we walk alone,
Involved in shadows of a darksome night—
Only with Thee we journey safely on.

—*W. Burleigh.*

Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall; but they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall run and not be weary, and they shall walk and not faint.

—*Isaiah* 40: 30, 31.

Lo, here are want and failing,
Temptation, weakness, care;
And wisdom, might prevailing,
And boundless love are there;
And these may meet in union sweet
Along the bridge of prayer.

—*F. Langbridge.*

The one thing that will win the world for Christ is love—patient, unselfish, uncalculating.

—*E. S. Lines.*

To bring men up to their best, we must call them to the highest.

—*Bishop Brent.*

Do Thou, then, breathe those thoughts into my
mind

By which such virtue may in me be bred
That in Thy holy footsteps I may tread.

—*Michael Angelo.*

The discipline by which the Christian shall achieve effectiveness—and effectiveness is the dream and the ambition of the true man—is by exercising plainly and simply these common virtues: Honesty, Purity, Sympathy and Wisdom.

—*James L. Houghteling.*

Run the straight race through God's good grace,
Lift up thine eyes and seek His face;
Life with its way before us lies,
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.

—*J. S. B. Monsell.*

EIGHTEENTH DAY

For God hath appointed that every high hill should be cast down, and valleys filled up, to make even the ground, that Israel may go safely in the glory of God.

—*Baruch 5: 7.*

We march, we march to victory!

With the cross of the Lord before us,
With His loving eye looking down from the sky,
And His holy arm spread o'er us.

Our sword is the spirit of God on high,

Our helmet is His salvation,
Our banner the Cross of Calvary,
Our watchword the Incarnation.

—*Gerard Moultrie.*

To recognize the fact that the Christian life is the most invincible and the most permeating influence that the world can ever know, is an enormous incentive to consistency and zealous devotion.

—*Bishop Brent.*

He most lives who thinks most, feels the noblest,
acts the best.

—*Bailey.*

A man is worth to himself just what he is capable of enjoying; he is worth to the world just what he is capable of imparting.

—*J. J. Canfield, LL. D.*

Ask God to give thee skill in comfort's art,
That thou may'st consecrated be and set apart
 Unto a life of sympathy;
For heavy is the weight of ill in every heart;
And comforters are needed much
 Of Christ-like touch.

—*Anna E. Hamilton.*

No good deed dies.

—*Canon Farrar.*

For God will shew thy brightness unto every country under heaven.

—*Baruch 5: 3.*

May each day renew the charitable emotions of our heart, and may we do all the good in our power, and so live and act that our lives may be a blessing to mankind.

—*From the German of Sturm.*

NINETEENTH DAY

O Thou that hearest prayer, unto Thee shall all
flesh come. —Ps. 65: 2.

Hearer of prayer, O guide aright
Each word and deed of mine;
Life's battle teach me how to fight
And be the victory Thine.
—G. P. Morris.

Nothing can release a man from the duty of pray-
ing but the profound conviction that it would be a
sin for him to continue to pray.

—Bishop Brent.

Would that we might live more nearly as we pray.
—Bishop Whitehead.

Be not afraid to pray—to pray is right,
Pray in the darkness if there be no light.
—Coleridge.

Prayer is not eloquence, but earnestness. It is the
cry of faith to the ear of mercy.
—E. H. Chapin.

Let your prayers continually grow wider in their sympathy, that they may lose all trace of selfishness, and become like His who "bears all His people on His breast, and forgets not one."

—*Bishop Whitehead.*

Pray that He may prosper ever
Each endeavor
When thine aim is good and true;
But that He may ever thwart thee
And convert thee
When thou evil would'st pursue.

—*F. R. L. Canitz, 1700.*

That heart in which the true love of God exists
never ceases to pray.

—*Fenelon.*

Whate'er is good to wish, ask that of Heaven,
Though it be what thou canst not hope to see;
Pray to be perfect, though material leaven
Forbid the spirit so on earth to be;
But if for any wish thou darest not pray,
Then pray to God to cast that wish away.

—*Hartley Coleridge.*

TWENTIETH DAY

That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

—*Heb. 6: 12.*

Go labor on while it is day!

The world's dark night is hastening on—
Speed, speed thy work; cast sloth away!

It is not thus that souls are won.

—*H. Bonar.*

There is no sentiment about Christian work. It is a plain matter of duty. The man who waits for some emotional impulse to send him into the ranks will find that the night of death falls before the impulse comes.

—*John W. Wood.*

We must be here to work for men,

And *not to work in vain*, must

Comprehend humanity, and so work humanly.

—*E. B. Browning.*

It is full of troubles, full of hard work, but it has this advantage—it gives endless opportunities of doing acts of kindness and saying words of sympathy. This is the Christian's life, and the man who has once firmly grasped this *idea of it* will find that he has entered upon "the highest, the hardest, and the holiest work in the world."
—*Unknown.*

A life of idle luxury
For earnest, restless, thinking mind,
I cannot deem could even be
A happy life in Heaven to find.
—*Unknown.*

Duty performed is a gain in character whose force can never be wholly spent.

—*Egbert C. Smyth.*

Use the opportunities you have. God will never ask you what you have done with those you never had.

—*Alex. M. Hadden.*

Every duty we omit obscures some truth we should have known.

—*Ruskin.*

Who is on the Lord's side?
Who will serve the king?
Who will be His helpers,
Other lives to bring?

—*Francis R. Havergal.*

TWENTY-FIRST DAY

Whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we, through patience and comfort of the Scriptures, might have hope.

—*Rom. 15: 4.*

Word of the everlasting God,
Will of His glorious Son;
Without Thee how could earth be trod
Or Heaven itself be won?

—*Bernard Barton.*

The Bible is touched by the power of God, and is separated from all other literature by the fact that it contains absolute spiritual truth, and because its author, as a living person, always stands behind it.

—*Bishop Brent.*

God writes His truths in our hearts, and by and by, when we get out into the heat of life, with its cares and temptations, God's writing comes out to the light.

—*Rev. W. W. Newton.*

God gives thee a little light that thou mayest know thy duty.

—*Alonzo Potter.*

For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God.

—II. Cor. 4: 6.

The Bible reveals not merely what God was, but what He is.

—Bishop Brent.

It floateth like a banner
 Before God's host unfurled;
 It shineth like a beacon
 Above the darkling world;
 It is the chart and compass
 That o'er life's surging sea,
 Mid mists and rocks and quicksands,
 Still guides, O Christ, to Thee.

—W. W. How.

The Bible is like a mariner's compass at sea. It is hung, as it were, on the pivots of God's providence, and points out the way for us to sail our ship upon the sea of life.

—W. W. Newton.

Oh send out Thy light and Thy truth: let them lead me.

—Ps. 43: 3.

O Truth, unchanged, unchanging—
 O light of our dark sky;

* * *

We praise Thee for the radiance
 That from the hallowed page
 A lantern to our footsteps
 Shines on from age to age.

—W. W. How.

TWENTY-SECOND DAY

God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of
our Lord Jesus Christ. —*Gal. 6: 14.*

Beneath the cross of Jesus
I fain would take my stand,
The shadow of a mighty rock
Within a weary land;
A home within the wilderness,
A rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noontide heat
And the burden of the day.
—*E. C. Clephane.*

If once we belong to God, He will prepare us for
whatever is best. —*Unknown.*

Take my will and make it Thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take myself and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee.
—*F. R. Havergal.*

Lead me to the rock that is higher than I.
—*Ps. 61: 2.*

Man in his weakness needs a stronger stay
Than fellow-men, the holiest and the best.

—*S. V. Powys.*

In God alone we have a covert from the storms and
a shadow from the heat of life. In our sorrows His
pity revives the fainting soul; and in our prosperity
and ease it is His spirit only that can wean us from
our pride and keep us low.

—*Unknown.*

Abide in me, o'ershadow by Thy love
Each half-formed purpose and dark thought of sin;
Quench, ere it rise, each selfish, low desire,
And keep my soul as Thine, calm and divine.

—*Harriet Beecher Stowe.*

God's shadow is better than man's light.

—*Madame Swetchine.*

I take, O cross, thy shadow
For my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than
The sunshine of His face;
Content to let the world go by,
To know no gain nor loss,
My sinful self my only shame,
My glory all the cross.

—*E. C. Clephane.*

TWENTY-THIRD DAY

Be of good cheer, O my children, cry unto the Lord, and He shall deliver you.

—*Baruch* 4: 21.

Set thy heart aright and constantly endure.

—*Eccles.* 2: 2.

Go forward, Christian soldier,
Beneath His banner true!
The Lord Himself, thy leader,
Shall all thy foes subdue.
His love foretells thy trials;
He knows thine hourly need;
He can with bread of heaven
Thy fainting spirit feed.

—*Laurence Tuttiell.*

No pain suffered, nor service rendered, nor work done for Christ, is lost. The poorer we become for Him, the richer we shall grow. The more we forget ourselves, the more will He remember us.

—*Thomas Guthrie.*

Do not despise your situation; in it you must act, suffer, and conquer. From every point on earth we are equally near to heaven and to the infinite.

—*Henri Frederic Amiel.*

Something mighty and sublime
Leave behind to conquer time!

—*Goethe.*

No man, who is a man, works for a reward. "All for love, and nothing for reward," so the angels serve, and the law for angels is the law for men.

—*Houghteling.*

Each spirit weaves the robe it wears
From out life's busy loom;
And common tasks and daily cares
Make up the threads of doom.

—*Anon.*

No man or woman can really be strong, gentle, pure, and good, without the world being better for it, without somebody being helped and comforted by the very existence of that goodness.

—*Phillips Brooks.*

What shall be our word for Jesus? Master, give it day by day.

Ever as the need arises, teach Thy children what to say.

Give us holy love and patience; grant us deep humility,

That of self we may be emptied, and our hearts be full of Thee.

—*Francis R. Havergal.*

TWENTY-FOURTH DAY

Ye shine as lights in the world; holding forth the word of life.

—*Phil. 2: 15, 16.*

Christ for the world we sing,
The world to Christ we bring,
With fervent prayer;
The wayward and the lost
By restless passions tossed,
Redeemed at countless cost
From dark despair.

—*S. Wolcott.*

Love for God must inspire all effort. To be of permanent use, men must be strong in faith.

—*Rev. W. B. Frisby.*

The battle for righteousness can never be ended until victory is won for the whole human race.

—*Bishop Courtney.*

The morning shall awaken,
The shadows flee away,
And each true-hearted servant
Shall shine as doth the day.

—*Bernard of Cluny.*

There is indeed no conceivable limit to the riches of a soul that has once resolved, with a resolution that cannot be shaken, to be true to itself; that has really begun to live as God would have it—as Christ came to teach us how to live.

—*Egbert C. Smyth.*

Many a man walks through life with blinders on, lest he should be enlisted in things that would take more of his time and more of his heart than he is willing to give.

—*James L. Houghteling.*

Bear meekly thro' the gate
The cross that is thine to bear;
And thou shalt lighten the weight
Of the crosses everywhere.

—*Anon.*

Love of ease will not bring men to the kingdom of God.

—*E. H. Taylor.*

Work when the day grows brighter,
Work in the glowing sun,
Work, for the night is coming,
When man's work is done.

—*Anna L. Walker.*

TWENTY-FIFTH DAY

If ye fulfil the royal law according to the Scripture,
thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself, ye do well.

—*James 2: 8.*

O Son of God, whose love so free
For men, did make Thee Man to be,
United to our God in Thee
May we be one.

—*Bishop C. Wordsworth.*

God has shown the brotherhood of man by making
our salvation largely depend upon the love and act
of one to another.

—*J. B. Dunn.*

Something, my God, for Thee,
Something for Thee;
That to Thy gracious throne may rise
Sweet incense from some sacrifice.

—*Anon.*

God hath united us so closely with our Fellows that
they do make, as it were, a part of our being, and in
comforting them we do most assuredly comfort our-
selves.

—*Whittier.*

Nothing resting in its own completeness
Can have worth or beauty, but alone
As it leads and tends to further sweetness,
Fuller, higher, deeper than its own.

—*Adelaide A. Procter.*

He who wrongs his fellow-man, sins against God
our Father.

—*Joseph B. Dunn.*

Christian character is the only force which a man
can both leave behind him and take with him when
he comes to die.

—*Bishop Brent.*

It is character that will be judged, and every man
with his free will is responsible for the character he
develops in himself and others.

—*Rev. E. H. Ward.*

Be noble! and the nobleness that lies
In other men, sleeping, but never dead,
Will rise in majesty to meet thine own;
Then wilt thou see it gleam in many eyes,
Then will pure light around thy path be shed.

—*James Russell Lowell.*

TWENTY-SIXTH DAY

He called upon the most high Lord, when the enemies pressed upon him on every side; and the great Lord heard him.
—*Eccles. 46: 5.*

Lord, Thou canst help when earthly armor faileth;
Lord, Thou canst save when deadly sin assaileth;
Lord, o'er Thy rock nor death nor hell prevaieth;
Grant us Thy peace, Lord.
—*Lowenstern, tr. P. Pusey.*

There never yet was a man who achieved the royal dignity of Christian character without a painful and thoroughgoing grappling with his former self.
—*Bishop Brent.*

Whene'er a noble deed is wrought,
Whene'er is spoken a noble thought,
Our hearts, in glad surprise,
To higher levels rise.
—*Santa Filomena.*

Life, to be worthy of a rational being, must be always in progression; we must always purpose to do more or better than in past times.
—*Dr. Samuel Johnson.*

Be willing to live by believing, and neither think nor desire to live in any other way.

—*Thomas C. Upham.*

Only he who flings himself upward, when the pull comes to drag him down, can hope to break the force of temptation.

—*Bishop Brent.*

Oh, may Thy soldiers, faithful, true and bold,
Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,
And win with them the victor's crown of gold.
Alleluia!

—*Bishop W. W. How.*

TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY

Be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

—II. *Timothy* 2: 1.

Oh, watch and fight and pray;

The battle ne'er give o'er;

Renew it boldly every day,

And help divine implore.

—*George Heath*, 1781.

Intercede, even when you cannot work. Pray in the midst of discouragement. From the secret place of prayer shall surely come the strength and courage and patience to do, and dare, and wait.

—*Bishop Whitehead*.

We can learn to converse with men, only by conversing; we can learn to pray to God, only by praying,

—*Bishop Brent*.

Prayer is a closing of the eyes on things seen and opening them on things unseen.

—*A. C. Thompson*.

I cannot dread the darkness where Thou wilt watch
o'er me,
Nor smile to greet the sunrise unless Thy smile I
see;
Creator, Saviour, Comforter; on Thee my soul is
cast.
At morn, at night, in earth, in heaven, be Thou my
first and last!

—*Eliza Scudder.*

The answer to prayer is slow; the force of prayer
is cumulative. Not till life is over is the whole
answer given, the whole strength it has brought un-
derstood.

—*Stopford Brooke.*

Pray without ceasing. —*I. Thess. 5: 17.*

He that loveth little, prayeth little; but he that
loveth much, prayeth much.

—*St. Augustine.*

When thou hast spent the lingering day
In pleasure and delight,
Or after toil and weary way
Dost seek to rest at night,
Unto thy pains or pleasures past
Add this one labor yet:
Ere sleep close up thine eye too fast,
Do not thy God forget

—*George Gascoigne, 1500.*

TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY

The God of peace make you perfect in every good
work to do His will. —*Heb. 13: 20, 21.*

Follow the Christ, the King!
Live pure! Speak true! Right wrong!
Follow the King!
Else wherefore born?

—*Tennyson.*

Whether consciously or unconsciously, every human
being that breathes, according as he moves his will
upwards or downwards, elevates or hinders his
fellows. —*Bishop Brent.*

No action, whether foul or fair,
Is ever done but it leaves somewhere
A record, written by fingers ghostly
As a blessing or a curse, and mostly
In the greater weakness or greater strength
Of the acts which follow it.

—*The Golden Legend.*

We sow a thought and reap an act; sow an act and reap a habit; sow a habit and reap a character; sow a character and reap a destiny.

—*Thackeray.*

A man's best desires are always the index and measure of his possibilities; and the most difficult duty that a man is capable of doing is the duty that above all he should do.

—*Bishop Brent.*

No one of my fellows can do that special work for me which I have come into the world to do; he may do a higher work, a greater work, but he cannot do my work. I must do it with these hands, or these lips, which God has given me.

—*John Ruskin.*

Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God.

—*Ps. 143: 10.*

We have a will of our own only when we believe it to be God's will also.

—*J. L. Jones.*

O Jesu sweet, grant that Thy grace
Always so work in me,
I may desire the thing to do
Most pleasing unto Thee.

—*William Humiss.*

TWENTY-NINTH DAY

And the Lord will give us strength and lighten our eyes.
—*Baruch* 1: 12.

Lo, the voice of Jesus
Bids us still endure;
Seek not what will please us,
But things just and pure;
Strive through self-denial,
Upward to the light,
Where faith's years of trial
Shall be lost in sight.

—*A. E. Evans.*

Men are to be judged, not by the power which they possess, but by the use they make of their power.

—*J. J. Canfield.*

The presence in our life of a difficulty is a call to responsibility, and the acceptance of a responsibility is the admittance into personal experience of God.

—*Bishop Brent.*

What we call "difficulty" is simply the point of view. When we cast away the petty hindrances of life, our horizon widens and the possibilities multiply. Many difficulties are then seen to be mere phantoms which have no real existence.

—*W. L. Prizes.*

Look away to Jesus,
Look away from all;
Then we need not stumble,
Then we shall not fall.
From each snare that lureth
Foe or phantom grim,
Safety this ensureth,
Look away to Him.

—*F. R. Havergal.*

THIRTIETH DAY

Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of
our faith.

—*Hebrews 12: 2.*

Still lift your standard high!

Still march in firm array!

As warriors through the darkness toil,

Till dawns the golden day.

—*E. H. Plumptre.*

It is a strange but inflexible spiritual law, that those
who aim at anything short of the best, according to
their conception, as God has given them light, will
sooner or later come to grief. It is merely a matter
of time.

—*Bishop Brent.*

Some high or humble enterprise of good

Contemplate, till it shall possess thy mind,

Become thy study, pastime, rest and food,

And kindle in thy heart a flame refined.

—*Carlos Wilcox.*

Man is so linked to his fellows that no man liveth
to himself.

—*Unknown,*

For all are brethren, far and wide,
Since Thou, O Lord, for all hast died;
Then teach us, whatsoe'er betide,
To love them all in Thee.

—*G. Thring.*

Happiness is the gift of God to him who, in the spirit of Christ, toils for the good of others.

—*Anon.*

All glory else besides ends with our breath,
But this of doing good must outlive death.

—*Daniel.*

Teach me to live, no idler let me be,
But in Thy service heart and hand employ,
Prepared to do Thy bidding cheerfully,
Be this my highest and my holiest joy.

—*Anon.*

Work is the best birthright man still retains. It is the strongest of moral tonics, the most vigorous of mental medicines.

—*Anon.*

In the vineyard of our Father
Daily work we find to do;
Toiling early in the morning,
Catching moments through the day.

—*Thomas Mackellar.*

THIRTY-FIRST DAY

Let us go forth therefore unto Him without the camp, bearing His reproach.

—*Hebrews 13: 13.*

There's a fight to be fought,
There's a work to be done,
And a foe to be met
Ere the set of the sun;
And the call is gone out
O'er the land far and wide—
Who'll follow the banner,
Who's on the Lord's side?

Not each one is called
In the front rank to fight,
And there's room for us all
Though our strength may be slight;
And the weakest and poorest
Some succor may bring
If only he follows
The flag of his King.

—*Sarah G. Stock.*

Do the good you know. Follow the truth you see.

—*Egbert C. Smyth.*

He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths.

—*Isaiah 2: 3.*

Life is a mission; its end is not the search after happiness, but knowledge and fulfilment of duty.

—*Unknown.*

Blessed is he who has found his work; let him ask no other blessedness.

—*Thomas Carlyle ("Past and Present").*

A man may make mistakes, but God's love holds on to him, and is ready to help him just as far as he is willing to be helped.

—*Anon.*

Peace to the soul that seeks that Friend Divine
Who on the cross stretched out His arms to save.

—*Michael Angelo.*

To be blameless in word; to sacrifice self, to take more and more secretly the lowest place; to be content to do nothing that attracts notice, but to do it always to the greater glory of God—this is the sure hope to everyone of final peace.

—*Anon.*

Above thy body keep thy mind;

Above thy mind, keep thou thy soul;

Above soul, mind, and body, keep

Thy God, to rule and bless the whole.

—*F. S. Cook.*

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely—think on these things.

—*Phil. 4: 8.*

“Lord, I hear of showers of blessing,
Thou art scattering full and free!
Showers the thirsty land refreshing;
Let some portion fall on me, even me!”

Finis.



